

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
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Information as of 1430SPOT COMMENTARY: POLAND

The heavy civilian casualties inflicted by security forces will probably wreck what has been an increasingly successful regime effort at "pacification" with minimal violence. In addition to killing seven miners in Silesia and injuring 164 workers in Gdansk, the regime is attempting to suppress with tear gas and beatings the student demonstrations currently underway in Warsaw. If rioting spreads to other Polish cities, the security forces, which until now have been selecting targets against which to bring maximum force, may be inadequate. In Gdansk they had 160 casualties. A larger role for the military in direct crowd control will be the final test of their reliability. Even if these civilian deaths fail to galvanize immediately the populace, they will do so in the future, just as the shootings in 1970 in Gdansk did. [REDACTED]

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